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Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

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INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
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CINCPAC HONOLULU

UNCLAS WELLINGTON 04769

FOR SECSTATE FOR EA/ANZ, CINCPAC FOR USICA ADVISOR

EO 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT

1. CAMP DAVID AND THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE TALKS COMMANDED MAJOR MEDIA ATTENTION DURING THE WEEK, EDITORIAL COMMENT LOOKING ON THE MEETING AS A MAKE-OR-BREAK SITUATION FOR BOTH PEACE AND PRESIDENT CARTER. TELEVISION TWO TOOK A MAJOR PORTION OF ITS LATE NIGHT TUESDAY NEWS PROGRAM TO PREVIEW THE BUILDUP TO THE TALKS.

2. JAPANESE AND NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENTS HAVE COME TO A WORKING AGREEMENT FOR ENABLING JAPAN TO FISH THE ECONOMIC ZONE, ALTHOUGH WITHOUT MUCH EVIDENT BENEFIT FOR NEW ZEALAND IN GAINING BETTER ACCESS TO JAPANESE MARKETS FOR ITS PRIMARY PRODUCTS. HOWEVER, MR TOKUYAMA, ECONOMICS, CONTRIBUTING EDITOR TO "NEWSWEEK", AND DIRECTOR OF THE NOMURA INSTITUTE, AT PRESENT IN NEW ZEALAND, COMMENTED ON RADIO NEW ZEALAND OF A SWING OF POLITICAL PRESSURE FROM THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR IN JAPAN TO THE URBAN AREAS, WHICH WOULD FAVOR BETTER AGRICULTURAL TRADING TERMS FOR NEW ZEALAND. HE ALSO COMMENTED ON TELEVISION ONE, ON THE
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UNEXPECTED DEMAND FROM CHINA FOR TRADE WITH JAPAN, THE FIGURE RISING FROM THE INITIAL 20 BILLION DOLLARS TO 40 BILLION DOLLARS, AND THE ABANDONMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL CHINESE RELUCTANCE TO BE INVOLVED IN LOAN DEALS.

3. UNION PROBLEMS CONTINUE TO DOG THE NEW ZEALAND LABOR SCENE. THE CAPITAL'S TWO PAPERS FAILED TO COME OUT AT THE

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START OF THE WEEK, DUE TO STAFF OBJECTING TO RETRENCHMENT MOVES TAKEN BY MANAGEMENT. THE GOVERNMENT CALLED A COMPULSORY MEETING OF ALL GROUPS INVOLVED IN THE FREEZING INDUSTRY AS A MAJOR CONFRONTATION LOOMED BETWEEN THE FREEZING WORKERS, FACED WITH PROSECUTIONS OVER LABOR VIOLATIONS, AND THE GOVERNMENT, WITH FEDERATED FARMERS, THE COUNTRY'S MAJOR FARM ORGANIZATION, ALSO BEING INVOLVED.

4. NEW ZEALAND THIS WEEK INTRODUCED AN ACT DESIGNED TO PROMOTE THE ADVANCEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND HAS FORMED A COMMISSION WHICH WILL START WORK NEXT WEEK. AS WELL, A SPECIAL COMMISSION LOOKING INTO NEW ZEALAND'S JUDICIAL SYSTEM, HAS COME UP WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SOME CHANGES, MAINLY IN THE INTRODUCTION OF FAMILY COURTS WITH WIDER POWERS AND CHANGES TO THE EXISTING MAGISTRATES' COURT.

5. RADIO NEW ZEALAND HAS MADE ARRANGEMENTS TO TAPE VOICE OF AMERICA MATERIAL FOR SUPPLYING TO OPERATION DEEP FREEZE IN ANTARCTICA THIS SEASON. CURRENT AFFAIRS AND GENERAL BROADCAST TAPES WILL BE SENT TO CHRISTCHURCH FROM WHERE THEY WILL BE FLOWN TO ANTARCTICA, OVERCOMING PAST RECEPTION PROBLEMS IN THAT AREA.

6. SOME TIME AGO THE POST BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF TELEVISION PROGRAMMING AUTHORITIES THE AMERICAN CHILDREN'S UNCLASSIFIED

SERIES "THE BIG BLUE MARBLE," POST SUPPLIED PGM PRESS AND PHOTOGRAPHIC MATERIAL ABOUT THE SERIES WHICH HAVE NOW BEEN PURCHASED AND ARE SHOWING ON TELEVISION TWO.

7. LAST FRIDAY TWO "VIEWPOINT" VTRS, "FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM" AND "MONETARY ISSUES," WERE SCREENED AT THE TREASURY BUILDINGS FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY, THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TWELVE DIRECTORS FROM THESE THREE DEPARTMENTS. THE EMBASSY'S ECONOMIC OFFICER WAS PRESENT TO LEAD DISCUSSION AFTER THE SHOWING.

8. THE POST'S "TWENTY YEARS OF ACHIEVEMENT IN SPACE" EXHIBIT ENDED A SUCCESSFUL MONTH-LONG SHOWING AT THE SOCIETY SHOPPING MALL ON AUCKLAND'S MAIN STREET. THROUGH-OUT THE MONTH, THE EXHIBIT WAS SEEN BY A STEADY STREAM OF VISITORS, MANY RETURNING SEVERAL TIMES TO VIEW IT AND SEE SPACE PROGRAM FILMS. THE MALL ORGANIZERS HAVE WRITTEN SAYING THAT THEY WERE THRILLED BY THE RESPONSE. THIS WEEK-END THE EXHIBIT FORMS PART OF A LARGE DISPLAY AT THE WIGRAM AIRBASE IN CHRISTCHURCH MARKING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST AIR-CROSSING OF THE TASMAN SEA. 10,000 PEOPLE

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